

Amendments to the Claims

1 – 24 (cancelled)

25. (new) A clothing rack for organizing and storing clothing comprising:

a base;

a post supported on the base;

a latch mechanism disposed within an opening in the post; and

an extension adjustably connected to the post and movable between a first position to provide access to clothing items stored thereon and a second position to provide a compact arrangement to minimize the space required for storing and organizing the clothing, the extension including a securable end adapted to be inserted into the opening in the post and secured thereto by the latch mechanism when the extension is in the compact arrangement to provide support for the clothing items;

wherein the latch mechanism includes a resilient latch mechanism having a horizontally extending rod adapted for vertical displacement and engagement with the securable end of the extension, and at least one guide track, wherein an end of the horizontally extending rod is slidingly received in the at least one guide track.